

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Regular Council meeting convened at the CN Station – Council Chambers on the above date. Mayor James Ryan presiding.

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Dan Currie; Councillors Nadine LeBlanc, Melinda MacKenzie and Shawn McNamara

ALSO PRESENT: Kyle Slaunwhite, CAO
Nicole MacDonald, Deputy Clerk/Minute Recorder

1. PRIVATE SESSION – CONTRACT AND PROPERTY MATTERS (6:00 PM)

2. PUBLIC SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It was acknowledged that Town Council was meeting in the unceded territory of Mi’kma’ki, the ancestral and unceded land of the Mi’kmaq people.

4. CHANGES/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda with one deletion:
10a. 88 Dunromin Terrace

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED

RTC-12-18-23-2728

5. PROCLAMATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Chair thanked our volunteers and the Fire Department for the many hours of volunteering they have done and continue to do for our town over the holiday season.

6. PRESENTATIONS

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Council – November 20, 2023

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Regular Council minutes of November 20, 2023.

b. Committee of Council – December 4, 2023

There being no corrections, the Chair approved the circulated Committee of Council minutes of December 4, 2023.

8. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PRIVATE SESSION

a. Land Matter

Direction was given to the CAO on a land matter.

b. Contract Matter

MOTION: To approve an increase of \$102,000 to the 23-24 Capital Budget to be financed with long-term debt.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-12-18-23-2729*

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Water Rate Study

MOTION: To approve the Water Rate Study and advance it to the NSUARB for approval.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-12-18-23-2730*

b. Fisheries Training Pool Rates

MOTION: To approve the proposed rates, per staff report.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-12-18-23-2731*

One Nay

- Discussion on lowering the youth rate to \$5.00 – staff will be looking at sponsorship and financial assistance for some swims and programs

c. Portion of Spruce Street Closure Policy – Approval

MOTION: To approve the Policy titled “Portion of Spruce Street Closure.”

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-12-18-23-2732*

d. Amendments to the Heritage By-Law – First Reading

MOTION: To approve First Reading of Amendments to the Heritage Advisory Committee By-Law.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-12-18-23-2733*

e. Occupational Health and Safety – Annual Approval of Policy

MOTION: To approve the Occupational Health and Safety Policy as presented.

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED *RTC-12-18-23-2734*

10. DISCUSSION

11. REPORTS

a. Municipal Corporation Reports

i) Pictou County Shared Services Authority

- A balance budget is expected

ii) Pictou County Wellness Centre

- No meetings

iii) Riverview Home

- The corporation continues to be in a stable financial position

- Proceeding with the acquisition of a suitable residence for 4 to 6 residents currently living in the adult residential centre
- Ongoing discussions about the use of that building in the future

iv) Pictou County Mayors and Warden

- A report was shared on the new Sports Hall of Fame building
- They will be requesting financial assistance from each municipality

12. CORRESPONDENCE

a. Engage Nova Scotia Survey – Funding Request

The group is requesting a one-time financial contribution of \$1600 to assist with their work. They conduct detailed surveys that provides valuable information to municipalities and other organizations.

Council consensus was to take some time to look at the website and surveys before rendering a decision.

b. Habitat for Humanity – Board Representative Request

Council is interested in having someone sit on the Board. They asked staff to find out commitment requirements and time of meetings before assigning a councillor to the Board.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

- Comment about importance of pool staying open
- Question on changing prices for youth rates only
- Question on how pool is heated – an energy study is in the works

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Kyle Slaunwhite
CAO